NAME DATE PERIOD

SOCRATIC TICKET--- MUST BE COMPLETED IN FULL IN ORDER TO RECEIVE POINTS AND PARTICIPATE IN SOCRATIC DISCUSSION. 30 POINTS

Le Guin's beautiful, perceptive short story unfolds a moral **conundrum-** conundrum is a DIFFICULT QUESTION, PROBLEM ---as it reveals the stunning costs of a seemingly utopian town's comforts.

If our comfort depends on the suffering of others, Le Guin asks, how should we feel about these comforts, and what should we do? Is the "greater good" worth the sacrifice? Is such sacrifice even practical? This fairy-tale-like story raises *deep moral questions for every member of society, and demands that we, like the citizens in the story, break away from our blissful ignorance and pay close attention to the sources of our own comforts and freedoms*. Who is the child who suffers in the story, and what is its relationship to those who walk away from Omelas?

**SOCRATIC Discussion Questions**

Right there and think and search questions:

**How would you describe the city SETTING of Omelas- OPENING pages?**

1. DEFINE UTOPIA

THE SETTING –CHARACTERISTICS WHICH APPEAR UTOPIAN

2.TIME

3.PLACE

What do we know about Omelas from the opening pages? DESCRIBE THE IMAGERY-EXAMPLES WHICH MAKES IT APPEAR AS A UTOPIAN WORLD

4.SIGHT

5.SOUND

6.TASTE

7.TOUCH

8.SMELL

*Le Guin’s RHETORICAL QUESTION(* a rhetorical question is a figure of speech in the form of a question that is asked in order to make a point, rather than to elicit an answer) Le Guin’s question *SETS UP THE PARADOX (situation which may contradict itself)- THE AUTHOR IS PREPARING THE READER THAT ALL IS NOT WHAT IT SEEMS:*

9..**Why does the narrator think seem to doubt that we will believe in and accept the description of “the festival, the city, the joy”?**

**. Refer to “D’ handout- reference the bulleted items. Underline the lines in text which support the DP,DS,DC and write DP DS DC next to the annotated lines.**

10**.\*\*\*\*Define Dystopia**-

11.**Who are the dystopian protagonists and what are the characteristics of these dystopian protagonists**

12. How is it a dystopian society? What characteristics?

13. What is/are the dystopian control characteristics?

14.What is the “function” of the suffering child?

1. Why do the people of Omelas understand that the child “has to be there”?

16.How and when do they explain the suffering child to their children?

17.How do the children respond?

18.What “terrible paradox” must those who observe the suffering child face?

19. Why do they come to accept the child's confinement as “the terrible justice of reality”?

20.Who are the ones who walk away from Omelas?

21. Why do they leave?

22. And why go alone?

The ones who walked away – are there actions:

23. A brave act or something else?

24..Does it represent failure or integrity??? explain

25.Why do some people stay?

26.What do you think of those who stay?

**TEXT TO SELF**

27. Have you ever made a decision to walk away from something even though it would be easier to stay or be part of the crowd?

28. What happened?

**TEXT TO /WORLD**

**29.**How does Omelas resemble **our** current society? Make the connections

Can history repeat itself? If yes – how and why???

Do we see people conforming just to be better off???

30 .Do we have “a suffering child” (metaphor) on whom our lives, comforts, or happiness depends? EXPLAIN